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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/318,080	05/25/1999	GEOFFREY M. THIELE	P00645US2-63	9882
7590	09/13/2004			
HEIDI S NEBEL ZARLEY MCKEE THOMTE VOORHEES & SEASE 801 GRAND AVENUE SUITE 3200 DES MOINES, IA 503092721			EXAMINER NICKOL, GARY B	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1642	
DATE MAILED: 09/13/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 1642

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Page 1, paragraph 2 of the specification was replaced with the following:

This application is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 08/817,018, filed April 8, 1997, which was the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US96/17833, filed 10/25/1996 and further claims benefit to provisional application 60/005,929, filed October 27, 1995, now abandoned.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary B. Nickol Ph.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-0835. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 8:30-5:30; alternate Fri., 8:30-4:30.

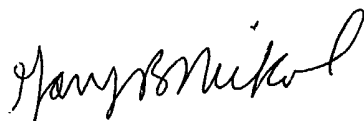
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Siew can be reached on 571-272-0787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 1642

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Gary B. Nickol Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1642

GBN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary B. Nickol". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "G" and "N".

GARY NICKOL
PRIMARY EXAMINER